

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, August 1, 2013
Mansfield Town Hall
Town Council Chambers**

4:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: Harry Birkenruth, Tom Callahan, Matt Hart, George Jones, Mike Kirk, Philip Lodewick, Toni Moran, Betsy Paterson, Shamim Patwa, Chris Paulhus, Steve Rogers, Bill Simpson, and Ted Yungclas

Staff: Kathleen M. Paterson

Guests: Lon Hultgren, Mansfield Director of Public Works; Brian Kent, Kent + Frost; Kristin Schwab

1. Call to Order

Philip Lodewick called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Mr. Lodewick welcomed the guests to the meeting.

2. Opportunity for Public to Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2013

Matt Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2013. Chris Paulhus seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Appointment of Chair to Advertising and Promotion Committee

Betsy Paterson moved to appoint Toni Moran as Chair of the Advertising and Promotion Committee. George Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Review of Conceptual Design for Town Square

Mr. Lodewick introduced the agenda item and asked Mr. Hart to begin the discussion.

Mr. Hart introduced Brian Kent from Kent + Frost, the design firm that is working on the design for the future Town Square. Mr. Hart explained the process to date and asked the Board to provide constructive feedback with regard to the design, phasing plan, and budget.

Mr. Kent provided a presentation about the design of the Town Square that included information about the goals, principles, and inspiration for the design. He explained the features of the preliminary design and provided an estimated budget for the materials and construction of the design as presented.

The Board provided feedback regarding the proposed materials, logistical considerations of the Town Square, snow removal and general maintenance, the size of the proposed lawn, the proposed inclusion of the planting beds, the height of the sitting wall, and the lack of drinking fountains.

Mr. Hart asked for comments from Kristin Schwab. Ms. Schwab noted that she thought Mr. Kent and his team had done a very good job of incorporating myriad requests from stakeholders into a comprehensive design. She added that the advisory group had reviewed a lot of different options for the design, and the one presented reflected the best option in her opinion.

The Board discussed the need for and possible approaches to fundraising for the Town Square.

Mr. Hart thanked the Board for their comments, which he will share with the advisory group.

Lon Hultgren noted that the design of the Town Square will follow the same process as the buildings within the Storrs Center Special Design District – submittal of a zoning permit application to the Director of Planning and Development, a public hearing held by the Partnership Board, followed by a recommendation to the Director of Planning and Development. The Director then makes a final decision on the zoning permit application.

Mr. Lodewick thanked Mr. Kent for his time and efforts.

6. Four Corners Sewer and Water Study Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Hart reported that the Town is working in collaboration with the University to bring additional water supply to Mansfield to serve both University and municipal needs, including the Four Corners commercial area. The University has prepared an Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for this project, and plans to review the record of decision for the EIE with the University Board of Trustees on August 7, 2013. The Town Council will meet on August 8 to review the same. Mr. Hart complimented town and University staff for their work on the project to date.

7. Reports from Committees

Due to the time, there were no Committee reports.

8. Other

Kathleen Paterson provided a brief update on the status of on-going construction within Storrs Center.

9. Adjourn

Shamim Patwa made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Paulhus seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Minutes taken by Kathleen M. Paterson